

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION





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Monday, December 19

Dear Commemorative Partners,

As we celebrate the holidays, we salute the service and valor of our Nation's men and women who sacrificed so much to preserve our liberty generation by generation. We are also grateful for the soldiers, Marines, sailors, airmen, guardians and coast guardsmen deployed around the world, who work so diligently to protect the freedoms we enjoy and treasure.



VWC Senior Leadership, December 2022

The end of the year is a time for remembrance. We pause to take stock of the past and reflect on what lies ahead as we pursue the future with hope. We remain mindful of all of our veterans, most notably our **Vietnam veterans** who **bore the battle**, and the loved ones of our military service men and women at home, especially our **Gold Star families** who **bore the loss** of the Vietnam War.

This holiday season, we hope you find creative ways to connect with the veterans in your families and neighborhoods, especially our Vietnam veterans. We want them to know just how much we appreciate them and their service to our Nation. Our veterans are a source of pride, and we all are an important part of the tradition they have established. We are grateful for their service and the sacrifices they made to defend our country and keep us safe at home.

We hope you will *remember our veterans* who have spent their holidays apart from their loved ones as they defended our country, as well as the numerous active military members who are preparing to do the same. Please keep these veterans, service members and their families in your thoughts and prayers. We must never forget them.

As we close out the year, and in time for the holidays, because many of you have asked, we wanted to make you aware of our recent partnership with the Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) to make Commemoration merchandise available. You can now purchase t-shirts with our <u>Seal</u> and other products when you connect to the AAFES storefront on the right rail of our <u>homepage</u>.



Finally, our entire Commemoration Staff wishes you and your families a very happy and healthy holiday season, and a peaceful and prosperous New Year! Enjoy the recent photo (at left) taken this month with some of our staff at the U.S. Capitol, alongside Commemorative Ambassador, the Honorable William J. Walker, Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives. May God bless you and your loved ones, and may God continue to bless the United States of America.



~ Peter M. Aylward, Maj. Gen., U.S. Army (Ret.), Director ~

